



STRONG FAMILIES MAKE A STRONG KANSAS

A PRESENTATION BY THE KANSAS DEPARTMENT FOR
CHILDREN AND FAMILIES



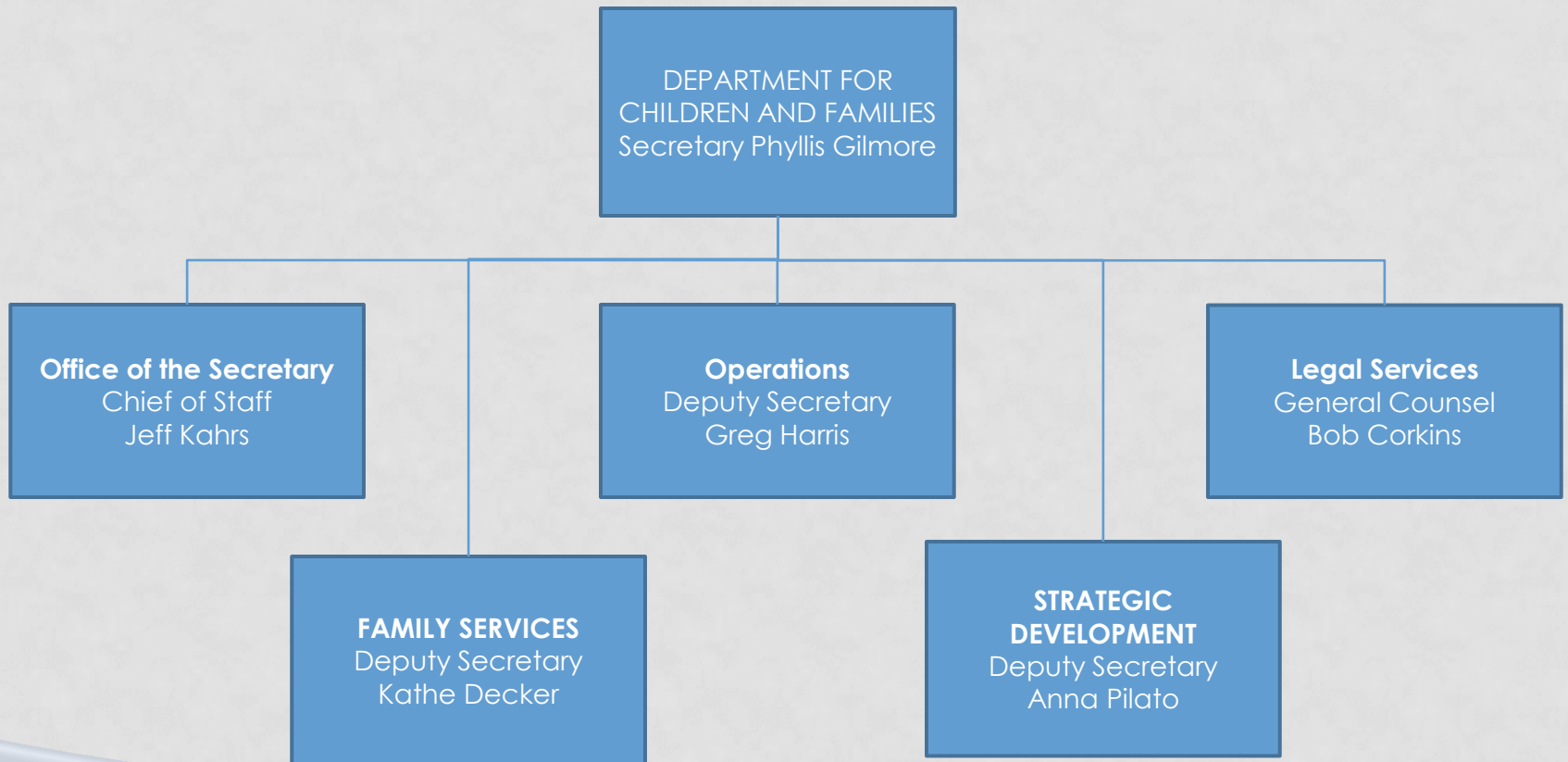
Strong Families Make a Strong Kansas

AGENCY OVERVIEW

Agency Mission: To protect children, promote healthy families and encourage personal responsibility.



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DEPARTMENT FOR CHILDREN AND
FAMILIES
Secretary Phyllis Gilmore

FAMILY SERVICES

Deputy Secretary Kathe Decker

- Economic and Employment Services
- Child Support Services
- Prevention and Protection Services
- Rehabilitation Services

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

Deputy Secretary Anna Pilato

- Training and Staff Development
- Faith Based and Community Initiatives

FAMILY SERVICES ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (EES)

EES manages benefits programs that are a bridge to economic independence for low-income families.

- Programs help low-income families with cash (**TANF**), food(**SNAP**), energy(**LIEAP**), child care assistance (**Child Care Subsidy**) and completing eligibility for the elderly and disabled medical programs.



FAMILY SERVICES ECONOMIC AND EMPLOYMENT SERVICES (EES)

- Programs help clients find and keep jobs and provide other employment support, refers work program clients to mental health services and Rehabilitation Services.
- Programs help strengthen families by improving early childhood education services (**HSSCO**) and Kansas Early Head Start (**KEHS**).



FAMILY SERVICES EES COLLABORATIONS

- **Solutions Recovery Care Coordination (SRCC)** – An inter-agency (**EES and KDADS**) agreement that provides case management to TANF work program participants with a Substance Use Disorder (SUD) to obtain employment.
- **JAG-KS.** – Jobs for America's Graduates provides services designed to keep Kansas students in school through graduation and assist in the transition into the work force to quality jobs.

FAMILY SERVICES CHILD SUPPORT SERVICES (CSS)

CSS - helps children receive the financial support necessary for their growth and development.

- Establishes parentage
- Establishes child support orders
- Locates noncustodial parents and their property
- Enforces child support orders
- Modifies support orders as appropriate



FAMILY SERVICES CSS COLLABORATIONS

- **Building Healthy Families** – A course developed in partnership with KDOE for high school students to provide information about child support and other matters to help teens understand the impact of their choices
- **Successful STEPS (Services to Train and Empower Parents)** – A program to empower fathers to move from government assistance and child support arrears to economic independence and responsible fatherhood



FAMILY SERVICES PREVENTION AND PROTECTION SERVICES (PPS)

PPS offers a variety of agency and contracted services to children, families and vulnerable adults to keep families safe, healthy and together.



FAMILY SERVICES PREVENTION AND PROTECTION SERVICES (PPS)

- **Child Protective Services (CPS)** - Investigates to determine if a child is safe and recommend by CPS or law enforcement to the court regarding what action should be taken to keep the child safe.
- **Adult Protective Services (APS)** - Responds to reports of abuse, neglect and exploitation of adults—this includes those who are 18 years and older and cannot protect themselves.



FAMILY SERVICES PREVENTION AND PROTECTION SERVICES (PPS)

- **Family Preservation Services** are provided to the family when the children are at risk of removal. Foster care and reintegration services are for children and families when a court has found the child to be in need of care and the parents are not able to meet the safety needs of their child.
- **Foster Care Services** - When a child comes into custody of the DCF Secretary, private contractors with the State work with the child and family to resolve issues so the child can return home.



FAMILY SERVICES PREVENTION AND PROTECTION SERVICES (PPS)

- **Adoption services** are available for children who cannot return home and the court has terminated parental rights. Providers help children find families either through adoption or permanent custodianship.



FAMILY SERVICES REHABILITATION SERVICES (RS)

In partnership with the community, **RS** provides services to individuals with disabilities to increase independence and self-sufficiency.

- **Employment Services - Vocational Rehabilitation (VR)** services empower Kansans with disabilities to become gainfully employed and self-sufficient.



FAMILY SERVICES RS SERVICES

Disability Determination - DCF assesses whether persons applying for Supplemental Security Income (SSI) or Social Security Disability Insurance (SSDI) meet the medical criteria for disability and are unable to work. DCF also evaluates continued need for benefits and makes Medicaid eligibility determinations.

Independent Living - DCF partners with 10 Centers for Independent Living that offer information and referral, advocacy, peer support, skills training and services to support deinstitutionalization.

FAMILY SERVICES RS SERVICES

- **Services for the Blind Elderly** - In cooperation with five grantees, DCF provides independent living training, assistive technology and other services to enable individuals to continue living in their own homes and communities.
- **Deaf and Hard of Hearing** - DCF certifies sign language interpreters, provides training to law enforcement agencies on accommodations for people who are deaf, and provides information and referral services.



STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT

Strategic Development - Enhances the capacity of DCF to provide services for Kansas families.

- **Training and Staff Development** partners with program areas of DCF to enhance the professional development of DCF staff.
- **Faith-Based and Community Initiatives** promotes partnership opportunities and works to enhance the capacity of local organizations.



STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT FAITH-BASED AND COMMUNITY INITIATIVES (FBCI)

The focus of **FBCI** is on healthy families, mentoring and anti-human trafficking

These priorities are advanced through:

- Convening the community to facilitate connection between faith-based and community groups and effective programs that could be replicated
- Raising awareness
- Providing technical assistance
- Recommending guidelines that will enhance partnership with local community

STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT FBCI COLLABORATIONS

- **Kansas Strong Dads Program** – A program to increase child reading readiness, boost fathering confidence and improve the father-mother relationship in support of their child
- **Connections to Success** – A program to empower fathers to move from government assistance and child support arrears to economic independence and responsible fatherhood



STRATEGIC DEVELOPMENT FBCI COLLABORATIONS

- **Safe Families** – Provides respite care for families in crisis through mentoring to achieve healthy families.
- **Anti-Human Trafficking** – A multi-disciplinary approach to continuum of care for the victims of human trafficking.



QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS

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